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WENDY A. FRICK

Customer Number

24024

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:	P. Lin)	Examiner: J. Kim
)	
Serial No.:	10/804,743)	Art Unit: 3733
)	
Filed:	March 19, 2004)	Confirmation No.: 8272
)	
For:	UNIPLATE CERVICAL DEVICE)	
)	Attorney Docket No.: 26874.04013
)	
)	

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I. Preliminary Statement

Applicants submit herewith patents, publications or other information, of which they are aware that they believe may be material to the examination of this application, and in respect of which, there may be a duty to disclose.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. §1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability (37 C.F.R. §1.97(h)), or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.

II. Identification of Time of Filing the Accompanying Information Disclosure Statement

- ☐ The information disclosure statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application or date of entry into the national stage of an international application or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever event occurs last. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b). As such it is believed that there is no fee due.
- ☒ The information disclosure statement submitted herewith is being filed *after* three months of the filing date of this national application or the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application or after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, whichever event occurred last but *before* the mailing date of either a final action under §1.113 or a notice of allowance under §1.311, whichever occurs first.
- ☐ The information disclosure statement transmitted herewith is being filed *after* a final action under §1.113, or a notice of allowance under §1.311, whichever occurs first, but before or simultaneously with, the payment of the issue fee.
- ☐ Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.
- ☐ No item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, furthermore, after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.
- ☐ Applicant received [a/an] _____ mailed _____ in related _____ application _____. A copy of this report is enclosed for the Office's convenience.
- ☐ The present information disclosure statement is being filed thirty (30) days or fewer from a communication from a foreign patent office and Applicant submits the following statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d): each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty (30) days prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

III. Publishing Dates of References

- ☐ Applicant(s) do not know the precise publication date(s) of these following reference(s): _____. However, Applicant(s) request that the Examiner consider this/these reference(s) in examining the present patent application. If the Examiner feels that one or more of the reference(s) bear against the patentability of the claim(s), Applicant(s) will then attempt to resolve the prior art status and applicability of the reference(s).

IV. Non-English References

- ☐ In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application citing such documents, together with an English-language version (if not already included) of that portion of the communication indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.
- ☐ Submitted herewith is an English translation of the following foreign language patents, publications or information or of those portions of those patents, publications or information considered to be material: _____.
- ☐ No English translations of the foreign language patents, publications or information or parts thereof are readily available, except for those listed above.
- ☐ The following foreign language documents submitted are believed to be the equivalent or substantial equivalent of the English language documents identified below, which are also submitted herewith.
- ☐ Concise Explanation of Non-English Language Listed Information Items. (Attached)

V. Fee

- ☐ It is believed that NO FEE is due with this Information Disclosure Statement.
- ☒ Petition fee due (§1.17(p)): \$180.00
- ☐ Attached is a check in the amount of \$180.00.
- ☒ Authorization is hereby made to charge the amount of \$180.00 to Deposit Account No. **03-0172**.
- ☒ Charge any additional fees required by this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. **03-0172**. A duplicate of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 8, 2006

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